UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/541,593	04/03/2000	Masanori Mukaiyama	Q58612	4884

7590   02/23/2005

Sughrue Mion Zinn Macpeak & Seas
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue N W
Washington, DC 20037-3202

EXAMINER
SALAD, ABDULLAHI ELMI

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2157	

DATE MAILED: 02/23/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/541,593	MUKAIYAMA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Salad E Abdullahi	2157	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *16 September 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-13* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-13* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

Response

1.   the response filed on 9/16/2004 has been received and made of record.

2.   applicant's argument with respect to claims 1-13 have been fully considered but are not persuasive for the following reasons.

3.   Applicant alleges both references does not disclose the management server obtains status information from a network device, when the management server receives a request from the terminal.

Examiner would like to point out to the applicant, the background description of the instant application where the applicant admits " For example, known is a network system attached a administration server which, when receiving a particular HTTP request from a client device running a Web browser, obtains information about operation status from a network printer, and creates and sends HTML data representing the network printer to the client device" (see page 1, line 23 to page 2, line 2). Thus, as admitted the admitted prior art of record obtaining status information from a network device, when the management server receives a request from a client is well known in the art.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5.   This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of

the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of

the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein

were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation

under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was

not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to

consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g)

prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

6.   Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable by

Carcerano et al., U. S. Patent No. 6,308,205[hereinafter Carcerano] in view of applicant

Admitted Prior Art of record[herein after APA]

As to claim 1, Carcerano discloses a device management network system including a

management server, one or more network devices to be managed, and one or more

client devices, each of the one or more network devices comprising:

a status information storing part for storing status information (see col. 4, lines 16-21);

a monitoring part for monitoring predetermined parts to determine whether each of the

predetermined parts is functioning properly, and updating the status information stored

in the status information storing part so as to include information about all abnormalities

that have occurred in the predetermined parts based on monitoring results (col. 1, lines

53-59); and

a request responding part for when receiving a status information request from the

management server, sending the status information stored in the status information

storing part to the management server, and the management server comprising:

a specifying part for specifying all abnormalities that has occurred in the network device

identified by the identification information in the device-details screen request based on

the status information obtained by the information obtaining part (see col. 9, lines 16-

32); and

an information sending part for sending information indicating all abnormalities

specified by the specifying part to the client device that has sent the device-details

screen request (col. 11, lines 7-17).

a status information obtaining part for containing identification information of a network

device among the one or more network devices from a client device running a Web

browser, obtaining status information stored in the status information storing part of the

network device identified by the identification information in the device-details screen

request by sending the status information request to the network device (see col. 10,

lines 12-47;

Carcerano is silent regarding:

the status information is obtained when device detail screen request is received.

APA, discloses a network system attached a administration server which, when

receiving a particular HTTP request from a client device running a Web browser,

obtains information about operation status from a network printer, and creates and

sends HTML data representing the network printer to the client device" (see page 1, line

23 to page 2, line 2). Furthermore, although Carcerano teaches obtaining the status

information from a local database, the alternative mechanism for retrieving the status

information at the time the request is received would be beneficial to Carcerano's

system in order to provide current state of the network device to the requesting

client/browser. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the

art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teaching of AP such as obtaining the

status information when device detail screen request is received, thus providing the

requesting client current state of the network device.

As to claim 3, Carcerano discloses the device management network system according

to claim 1, wherein the status information in said status information storing part of a

network device contains a type information indicating the type of network device and

wherein the said management server further comprises:

an image data storing part for storing a plurality of image data each of which

representing outside appearance of a network device (see figs. 6, 7 and col. 12, lines 6-

27 and col. 12, line 62 to col. 13, line 4); and

an image data sending part for selecting from the plurality of image data an image data

corresponding to the network device specified by the identification information in the

status information obtained by the status information obtaining part, and for sending the

image data to the client device that has sent the device-details screen request (see figs.

6, 7 and col. 12, lines 6-27 and col. 12, line 62 to col. 13, line 4).

As to claim 4, Carcerano discloses the device management network system according

to claim 1, wherein the management server further has functions of the client device

(see figs. 6, 7 and col. 12, lines 6-27 and col. 12, line 62 to col. 13, line 4).

As per to claim 5, Carcerano discloses the device management network system

according to claim 1, wherein each of the one or more network devices is a network

printer (col. 4, lines 48-49).

As to claim 6, Carcerano discloses a device management network system including a

management server, one or more network devices to be managed, and one or more

client devices, each of the one or more network devices comprising:

a status information storing part for storing status information (see col. 4, lines 16-21);

a monitoring part for monitoring predetermined parts to determine whether each of the

predetermined parts is functioning properly, and updating the status information stored

in the status information storing part so as to include information about all abnormalities

that have occurred in the predetermined parts based on monitoring results (col. 1, lines

53-59); and

a request responding part for when receiving a status information request from the

management server, sending the status information stored in the status information

storing part to the management server, and the management server comprising:

a specifying part for specifying all abnormalities that has occurred in the network device

identified by the identification information in the device-details screen request based on

the status information obtained by the information obtaining part (see col. 9, lines 16-

32); and

 an information sending part for sending information indicating all abnormalities

specified by the specifying part to the client device that has sent the device-details

screen request (col. 11, lines 7-17).

a status information obtaining part for containing identification information of a network

device among the one or more network devices from a client device running a Web

browser, obtaining status information stored in the status information storing part of the

network device identified by the identification information in the device-details screen

request by sending the status information request to the network device (see col. 10,

lines 12-47;

Carcerano is silent regarding:

the status information is obtained when device detail screen request is received.

APA, discloses a network system attached a administration server which, when

receiving a particular HTTP request from a client device running a Web browser,

obtains information about operation status from a network printer, and creates and

sends HTML data representing the network printer to the client device" (see page 1, line

23 to page 2, line 2). Furthermore, although Carcerano teaches obtaining the status

information from a local database, the alternative mechanism for retrieving the status

information at the time the request is received would be beneficial to Carcerano's

system in order to provide current state of the network device to the requesting

client/browser. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the

art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teaching of AP such as obtaining the
status information when device detail screen request is received, thus providing the
requesting client current state of the network device.

As to claim 8, Carcerano discloses the device management network system according
to claim 6, wherein the status information in said status information storing part of a
network device contains a type information indicating the type of network device and
wherein the said management server further comprises:
an image data storing part for storing a plurality of image data each of which
representing outside appearance of a network device (see figs. 6, 7 and col. 12, lines 6-
27 and col. 12, line 62 to col. 13, line 4); and
an image data sending part for selecting from the plurality of image data an image data
corresponding to the network device specified by the identification information in the
status information obtained by the status information obtaining part, and for sending the
image data to the client device that has sent the device-details screen request (see figs.
6, 7 and col. 12, lines 6-27 and col. 12, line 62 to col. 13, line 4).

As to claim 9, Carcerano discloses a device management network system including a
management server, one or more network devices to be managed, and one or more
client devices, each of the one or more network devices comprising:
a status information storing part for storing status information (see col. 4, lines 16-21);

a monitoring part for monitoring predetermined parts to determine whether each of the

predetermined parts is functioning properly, and updating the status information stored

in the status information storing part so as to include information about all abnormalities

that have occurred in the predetermined parts based on monitoring results (col. 1, lines

53-59); and

a request responding part for when receiving a status information request from the

management server, sending the status information stored in the status information

storing part to the management server, and the management server comprising:

a specifying part for specifying all abnormalities that has occurred in the network device

identified by the identification information in the device-details screen request based on

the status information obtained by the information obtaining part (see col. 9, lines 16-

32); and

an information sending part for sending information indicating all abnormalities

specified by the specifying part to the client device that has sent the device-details

screen request (col. 11, lines 7-17).

a status information obtaining part for containing identification information of a network

device among the one or more network devices from a client device running a Web

browser, obtaining status information stored in the status information storing part of the

network device identified by the identification information in the device-details screen

request by sending the status information request to the network device (see col. 10,

lines 12-47;

Carcerano is silent regarding:

the status information is obtained when device detail screen request is received.

APA, discloses a network system attached a administration server which, when

receiving a particular HTTP request from a client device running a Web browser,

obtains information about operation status from a network printer, and creates and

sends HTML data representing the network printer to the client device" (see page 1, line

23 to page 2, line 2). Furthermore, although Carcerano teaches obtaining the status

information from a local database, the alternative mechanism for retrieving the status

information at the time the request is received would be beneficial to Carcerano's

system in order to provide current state of the network device to the requesting

client/browser. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the

art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teaching of AP such as obtaining the

status information when device detail screen request is received, thus providing the

requesting client current state of the network device.

As to claim 11, Carcerano discloses the device management network system according

to claim 9, wherein the status information in said status information storing part of a

network device contains a type information indicating the type of network device and

wherein the said management server further comprises:

an image data storing part for storing a plurality of image data each of which

representing outside appearance of a network device (see figs. 6, 7 and col. 12, lines 6-

27 and col. 12, line 62 to col. 13, line 4);and

an image data sending part for selecting from the plurality of image data an image data

corresponding to the network device specified by the identification information in the

status information obtained by the status information obtaining part, and for sending the

image data to the client device that has sent the device-details screen request (see figs.

6, 7 and col. 12, lines 6-27 and col. 12, line 62 to col. 13, line 4).

As to claim 12, Carcerano discloses a device management network system including a

management server, one or more network devices to be managed, and one or more

client devices, each of the one or more network devices comprising:

a status information storing part for storing status information (see col. 4, lines 16-21);

a monitoring part for monitoring predetermined parts to determine whether each of the

predetermined parts is functioning properly, and updating the status information stored

in the status information storing part so as to include information about all abnormalities

that have occurred in the predetermined parts based on monitoring results (col. 1, lines

53-59); and

a request responding part for when receiving a status information request from the

management server, sending the status information stored in the status information

storing part to the management server, and the management server comprising:

a specifying part for specifying all abnormalities that has occurred in the network device

identified by the identification information in the device-details screen request based on

the status information obtained by the information obtaining part (see col. 9, lines 16-

32); and

an information sending part for sending information indicating all abnormalities

specified by the specifying part to the client device that has sent the device-details

screen request (col. 11, lines 7-17).

a status information obtaining part for containing identification information of a network

device among the one or more network devices from a client device running a Web

browser, obtaining status information stored in the status information storing part of the

network device identified by the identification information in the device-details screen

request by sending the status information request to the network device (see col. 10,

lines 12-47;

Carcerano is silent regarding:

the status information is obtained when device detail screen request is received.

APA, discloses a network system attached a administration server which, when

receiving a particular HTTP request from a client device running a Web browser,

obtains information about operation status from a network printer, and creates and

sends HTML data representing the network printer to the client device" (see page 1, line

23 to page 2, line 2). Furthermore, although Carcerano teaches obtaining the status

information from a local database, the alternative mechanism for retrieving the status

information at the time the request is received would be beneficial to Carcerano's

system in order to provide current state of the network device to the requesting

client/browser. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the

art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teaching of AP such as obtaining the

status information when device detail screen request is received, thus providing the

requesting client current state of the network device.

As to claim 13, Carcerano discloses the device management network system according

to claim 12, wherein the status information in said status information storing part of a

network device contains a type information indicating the type of network device and

wherein the said management server further comprises:

an image data storing part for storing a plurality of image data each of which

representing outside appearance of a network device (see figs. 6, 7 and col. 12, lines 6-

27 and col. 12, line 62 to col. 13, line 4); and

an image data sending part for selecting from the plurality of image data an image data

corresponding to the network device specified by the identification information in the

status information obtained by the status information obtaining part, and for sending the

image data to the client device that has sent the device-details screen request (see figs.

6, 7 and col. 12, lines 6-27 and col. 12, line 62 to col. 13, line 4).

7.   Claims 2, 7 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Carcerano and APA as applied to claims 1, 6 and 9 above, and further in view of

Matsueda et al U.S. Patent No. 6,301,016[herein after Matsueda].

As per claim 2, 7 and 10, Carcerano and APA disclose substantial features of the

claimed invention as discussed above with respect to claims 1, 6 and 9,

Carcerano and APA, are silent regarding:

wherein said information sending part of the management server sends information containing names of image files associating with the abnormalities specified by the specifying part.

Matsueda discloses a data processing system including a print server for transferring or transmitting information containing names of image files associating with the abnormalities (i.e., error) specified by the specifying part (see col. 4, lines 3-25 and col. 5, lines 1-34). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to Incorporate the teaching of Matsueda such as sending information containing names of image files associated with the abnormalities of the data processing devices such as printer/copier into the combined system of Carcerano and APA such that abnormalities or errors can be easily and efficiently identified in order to receive prompt response.

CONCLUSION

8.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to the applicant's disclosure.

9.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Salad E Abdullahi whose telephone number is 571-272-4009. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 - 5:00. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on 571-272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

10.   Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Abdullahi Salad
Examiner Au 2157
2/21/2004